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VOLUME I.]

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BY PORTER & MALLERY.

RUFUS PORTER, —Editor.

Each number of this paper is furnished with from two to five ORIGINAL ENGRAVINGS, many of them elegant, and illustrative of NEW INVENTIONS, SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES, and CURIOSITIES; and contains as much interesting Intelligence as six ordinary daily papers, consisting of notices of the progress of Mechanical and other Scientific Improvements;—American and Foreign Inventions; Catalogues of American Patents;—Scientific Essays, illustrative of the principles of the Sciences of Mechanics, Chemistry, and Architecture;—Instruction in various Arts and Trades;—curious Philosophical Experiments;—Miscellaneous Intelligence, Poetry, and, occasionally, Music.

This paper is especially entitled to the patronage of Mechanics and Manufacturers, being the only paper in America devoted to the interests of those classes; but is particularly useful to Farmers, as it will not only apprise them of improvements in agricultural implements, but instruct them in various mechanical trades, and guard them against impositions. As a family newspaper, it will convey more useful intelligence to children and young people, than five times its cost in school instruction. Another important argument in favor of this paper, is, that it will be worth two dollars at the end of the year, when the volume is complete, and will probably command that price in cash, if we may judge from the circumstance that old volumes of the "New York Mechanic," by the same editor, will now command double the original cost.

TERMS.—The "Scientific American" will be furnished to subscribers at \$2. per annum,—one dollar in advance, and the balance in six months.

Five copies will be sent to one address six months, for four dollars in advance.

Any person procuring two or more subscribers, will be entitled to a commission of twenty-five cents each.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—For 10 lines, or less, 50 cents for the first, and 12 1/2 cents for every subsequent insertion.

The Frog.

MACHINE POETRY.

Of all the things that live
In woodland, marsh, or bog,
That creep the ground or fly the air,
The funniest is the frog—
The frog—the scientificest
Of Nature's handy work—
The frog, that neither walks nor runs,
But goes it with a jerk.

With pants and coat of bottle green,
And yellow fancy vest,
He plunges into mud and mire—
All in his Sunday best;
When he sits down he's standing up,
As Paddy O'Kinn once said;
And, for convenience sake, he wears,
His eye on top his head.

You see him sitting on a log,
Above the "nasty deep,"
You feel inclined to say, old chap!
Just "look before you leap!"
You raise your cane to hit him,
His ugly-looking mug;
But, ere you get it half way up,
Adown he goes KER-CHUG.

He keeps about his native pond,
And ne'er goes on a spree,
Nor gets "how-come-you-so," for a
Cold water chap is he;
For earthly cares to get drunk
He's not the silly fool;
But, when they come, he gives a jump,
And drowns 'em in the pool.

Yankee Land.
I wish I was in Yankee land,
And was a boy again,
I'd suck sweet cider till I burst,
And fish in every rain.

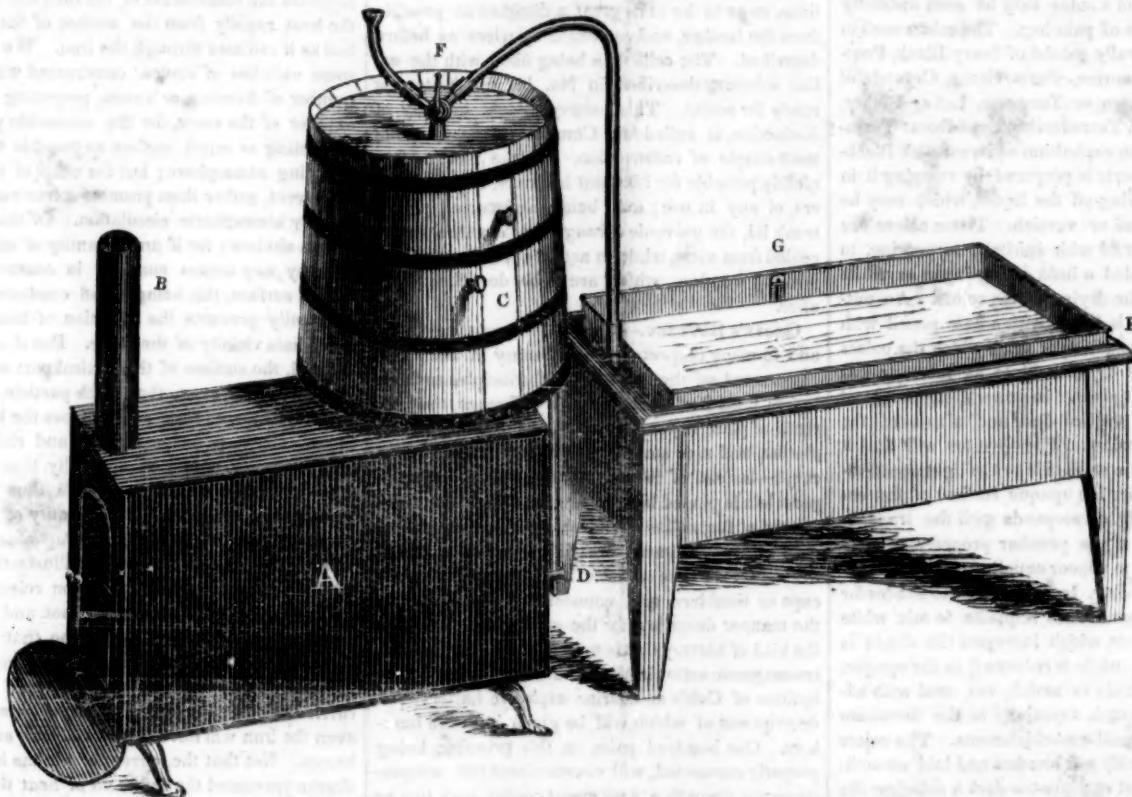
I'd never wander from my home
To visit foreign scenes,
But always to my mammy stick
And live on pork and beans!

Sonnet in Praise of Invention.

Great was the man who first invented letters;
Great was Archimedes, Galileo great—
Great was Copernicus; who from the fetters
Of ancient error freed the Starry State,
Great were the Ptolemies, great was Tycho Brahe,
Pythagoras, and Count Ramford, and Macadam,
Watts, Arkwright, Kepler, and the man whose pa
Was once the owner of the town of Haddam.
Great was Sir Humphrey Davy, Roger Bacon;
Great is Daguerre, and Richard Adams Locke,
Franklin, by whom the thunder's throne was shaken;
Great was the inventor of the wooden clog.

COMPOUND INTEREST.—If an English penny had been placed out at compound interest at five per cent, in the year one, it would, last Christmas, 1840, have produced the enormous sum of £4,047,035,811-126,677,845,110,793,317,430,411,529, which, laid down edgeways, would measure the immense length of 54,292,888,880,329,484,980,173,827,118,308 miles, and make 1,529,862,220 of our earth in solid gold. At simple interest it would have produced only 7s. 9d.

IMPROVED STEAM DIARY APPARATUS.



EXPLANATION.—An iron stove about two feet long, and eighteen inches high, contains within it a cylindrical boiler, and within the boiler, a cylindrical furnace, with a grate for the fire. This boiler is so arranged that the fire or heated air passes through its centre, and returns outside to the smoke pipe B, where it escapes. A generator C made of wood is placed a few inches above the stove, and has two or more try-cocks on its side, whereby the depth of the water therein is ascertained. The water within the boiler is contained between the two cylinders, and communicates with the water in the generator by the pipes, one of which extends from the top of the boiler to the bottom of the generator; and the other extends from the side, or from the bottom near the side of the generator, to the bottom of the boiler at D. By means of this arrangement,—the generator being about half filled with water, and a fire placed in the furnace,—a current of water constantly ascends from the boiler through the first pipe, and descends through the second; thus keeping the water in the generator at the same temperature with that in the boiler. A short distance from the stove is a water-vat E, built of wood, and standing on legs; and at the head of the generator is a valve head F with a roller valve or two way cock, so constructed that the steam cannot be wholly suppressed, nor escape in only one direction at the same time. From this valve head project two branch pipes, by one of which the steam escapes to the open air, and by the other, the steam is conducted to the bottom of the water-vat, and terminates within a casing of wood—a longitudinal piece of plank, the sides of which are perforated for the purpose of distributing the steam equally in the different parts of the vat. Another vat—the milk-vat—made of tin plate, and of dimensions nearly equal to the interior of the water-vat, is set therein, and is intended to contain the milk in preparation for cheese. By this arrangement the space between the two vats being nearly filled with water, the milk may be gradually and uniformly warmed, by admission of steam into the water-vat. A thermometer, G, is suspended at the side of the milk vat, the bulb being immersed therein, and accurately indicates the temperature of the milk during the process. This apparatus will also be found very convenient for readily and economically heating water, for various purposes in which hot water is required in farming establishments. It was invented by Mr. Gordon, Farmer, of Mohawk, Herkimer Co., N. Y., who has taken measures for securing a patent, and will furnish the machines, or rights therein, on the most reasonable terms.

DEVILTRY.—A great many queer stories are told of the facts and the necromantic tricks of the Herr Alexander, who is now putting all former magicians in the shade. One was related to us by a lady which struck us as being more wonderful than any we had before read of. The performer desired a number of gentlemen of the audience to loan him their handkerchiefs, and proceeded to collect some dozen or fourteen of them, which he plunged into a bowl of clear water, standing in full view of the company. Many of the handkerchiefs were not exactly suited for exhibition to a fastidious assembly, as two at least of the owners of the same used snuff, but this did not appear to trouble the magician at all; he put them in the water together and stirred them around with the air of one determined to make them white as snow. He then took them from the water and held them up to view with the fluid streaming from them,—a mass of wet rags.—He then proceeded to ram and jam them, wet as they were, in the mouth of a blunderbuss, which being done he fired off the piece over the heads of the audience. To the minds of many present it seemed that the washed handkerchiefs were now done gone, blown away forever—but not so, for an instant afterwards the Herr opened a box which stood near him and took from it all the handkerchiefs perfectly clean, nicely ironed, neatly folded, and scented with lavender! Every man had his bit of cambric returned to him, and every man, snuff takers included, enjoyed the fragrance of his cleansed and odoriferous "wipe." How blest must that woman be who rejoices in the Herr as her spouse, how happy the small family with the mighty magician for an inmate!

A CHEERFUL WIFE.—A good writer has remarked that a woman may be of great assistance to her husband by wearing a cheerful smile continually upon her countenance. A man's perplexities and gloominess are increased a hundred fold, when his better half moves about with a continued scowl upon her brow. A pleasant, cheerful wife is as a rainbow set in the sky, when her husband's mind is tossed with storms and tempests; but a dissatisfied and fretful wife, in the hour of trouble, is like one of those fiends who are appointed to torment him.

PROFESSIONAL CANDOUR.—A staid and demure-looking quaker lady called on our neighbor, Dr. Christie, a few days since. "Will the Galvanic Rings cure depression of spirits?" asked the lady. "What has caused the complaint, madam?" replied the doctor. "The loss of my husband," mournfully ejaculated the lady. "Then you had better get a wedding ring," said the doctor. Exit the lady to do the same.

VIRGINIA MILL, RICHMOND.—The Gallego mill was built in 1833. It is situated at the head of the basin of the James river canal. Its dimensions are 95 feet by 84 feet; its total height being 105 feet. It is eight stories high in the rear, four stories high in the front, and three stories in the attic. The building is of brick, and built in the most substantial manner; the walls of the first story being 1-2 feet thick. The gearing and shafts throughout are of iron, the whole machinery being put in motion by three water wheels, of 32 feet in diameter each, and 12 feet bucket, carrying 24 pairs of burrs, 4 of which are used for rubbing in cleaning the wheat. The business done by this mill is very large; it ordinarily turns out about 500 barrels of flour in the twenty four hours; though, when required, it has turned out 700 barrels in that time. The flour is packed in barrels, in the usual way, by hand, and pressed in the barrel by machinery. Attached to, and communicating with, this mill, is a lumber house, measuring 81 feet by 80, three stories in front, four stories in rear, and two stories in the attic; its total height being 70 feet; and, adjoining this lumber house, there is another now in course of erection, measuring 65 feet by 50 feet, four stories high in front, five stories in the rear, and two in the attic; its height is 70 feet. The flour ground at this mill is chiefly sold for the South American markets, where it is in great request, and enjoys a deservedly high reputation.

A NEW BAROMETER.—It is difficult for all persons to have a Barometer to ascertain the state of the weather, but in England they have made a discovery of a very simple character. It is by keeping a Leech in a phial of water. If the weather continues serene and beautiful, the leech lies motionless at the bottom of the glass, and rolled together in a spiral form. If it rains either before or afternoon, it is found to have crept up to the top of its lodgings, and there it remains till the weather is settled. If we are to have wind, the poor prisoner moves through its limpid habitation with amazing swiftness, and seldom rests till it begins to blow hard. If a remarkable storm of thunder and rain is to succeed, for some days before, it lodges continually out of water, and discovers great uneasiness in violent throes and convulsive like motions. In frost, as in summer-like weather, it is constantly at the bottom. And in snow, as in rainy weather, it pitches its dwelling upon the very mouth of the phial. It may not be amiss to note that the leech is kept in a common eight-ounce glass phial, about three-fourths filled with water, tied on the mouth with a piece of linen rag. In the summer time, the water is changed once a week, and in winter once a fortnight.

A CHEAP BREAKFAST.—A son of Erin, at Schenectady, heard the breakfast bell ring on board of a canal boat as starting out for Buffalo. The fragrance of the viands induced him to go aboard.

"Sure, Captain, dear," said he, "an, what'll ye ax a poor man for travelling on your illigant swan ov a boat?"

"Only a cent and a half a mile, and found," replied the Captain.

"An' is it the vittles ye mean to find, sure?"

"Yes. And if you're going along come down to breakfast."

Pat didn't wait to be told a second time, but having descended into the cabin and made a hearty meal he came again on deck and requested that the boat might be stopped.

"How far have we come, just?" asked Pat.

"Only a little over a mile."

Pat thereupon handed the Captain two cents, and coolly told him that he believed he would not go any further with him, as Juddy would wait her breakfast, not knowing that he had breakfasted out.

The joke was so good that the Captain took the cents, ordered the boat stopped, helped Pat ashore, and told him that should he ever have occasion to travel that way again he should be most happy to carry him.

TO GET A TIGHT RING OFF A FINGER.—Thread a needle flat in the eye with a strong thread; pass the end of the needle with care under the ring, and pull through a few inches towards the hand; wrap the long end of the thread tightly around the finger, regularly, all down to the nail, to reduce its size. Then lay hold of the short end of the thread, and unwind it. The thread pressing against the ring will gradually remove it from the finger. This never failing method will remove the tightest ring without difficulty, however much swollen the finger may be.

THE THOUSANDS OF ISRAEL.—According to the Faithful Watchman of Zion—the organ of the orthodox German Jews—there are in Italy, 50,000 Israelites; in Holland and Belgium, 80,000; in England, 30,000; in Denmark and Sweden, 5,000; in Russia, 60,000; in Poland, 1,500,000; in Hungary, 160,000; in European Turkey, 300,000; and in other parts of Europe about one million.

MOUNTAINS OF NORTH AMERICA.—The highest peaks of the Rocky Mountains are Brown and Hooker Mountains. They reach up three miles above the level of the ocean. The Black Mountains in North Carolina, and the White Mountains in New Hampshire, are one mile and a quarter high. No other point of the great Appalachian range is above a mile in height.

CATALOGUE OF AMERICAN PATENTS

ISSUED IN 1844.

(Continued from No. 11.)

CLASS XV.—Stone and Clay Manufactures, including Machines for Pottery, Glass-making, Brick-making, dressing and preparing Stone, Cements, and other building materials.

Moulding brick, John Booth and Wm. H. Stevenson, Columbus, Miss.—Jan. 6.

Moulding brick, Wm. T. Peters, executor of Ithiel Town, New Haven, Ct.—Sept. 27.

Brick press, Mark Twitchell, Gray, Me., June 10; Jeffrey Smedley, Columbia, Pa., Aug. 28; C. B. Baker and E. Gifford, Troy, N. Y., Sept. 7th;

Nathan Sawyer, Baltimore, Md., Sept. 27; Benjamin H. Brown, Philadelphia, Oct. 3.

Dressing Mill-stones, John Black, Helena, Ark., Aug. 10.

Stone-cutters, Jacob Jenks, Roscoe, Ill., June 2.

Dressing Stone, Hammond Ward, Charlton, Mass., April 10.

CLASS XVI.—Leather, including Tanning and Dressing, Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Saddlery, Harness, etc.

Cork-sole Boots, William L. McCauley, Baltimore, Md., June 5.

Boot-crimps, Josiah M. Read, assignee of Abraham Thayer, assignee of Josiah Copeland, Boston, Jan. 20; Pelatiah Stevens, jr., Canton, Mass., July 15.

Boot-shank, Isaiah Gale, Natchez, Miss., July 11.

Crimps for Collar pad, Joseph S. Barkdull, Ballston, N. Y., July 13.

Harness check-hooks, Abel B. Buell, Westmoreland, N. Y., March 13.

Horse-hames, Nathan Post, Madrid, N. Y., June 15; Joseph K. Slater and Sylvester G. Pratt, Boston, Sept. 20.

Machinery for forming hats of leather, Randal Fish, New York, Oct. 12.

Machine for cutting raw hides, William Marshall and J. B. Thursby, Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 4.

Making Leather, Robert Downey, New Albany, Ind., June 15.

Splitting Leather, Alpha Richardson, Boston: April 17.

Construction of Saddles, Samuel Ringgold, Fort McHenry, Md.: Oct. 7.

Sewing machine, James Rogers, New York: July 22.

Cutting Soles, Richard Richards, Lynn, Mass.: December 16.

Tanning, John Cox, Georgie Mills, Edinburgh, Scotland: June 5; Adam Ketterling and A. Vogle, Hempfield, Pa.: June 24; William Brown, Manchester, Md.: August 1.

CLASS XVII.—Household furniture, machines and implements for domestic purposes, including washing machines, bread and cracker machines, feather dressing, etc.

Bedstead, Wm. F. Converse, R. H. Penny, and R. S. Hanniford, Harrison, Ohio: December 31.

Bureau bedstead, Henry W. Kingman, New York: October 12.

Sacking bottoms of bedsteads, Isaac Cooper, Johnston, Pa.: October 7.

Sofa bedstead, G. L. F. Griswold, assignee of G. Sickels, Middletown, Ct.: December 4.

Bread knife, Franklin Roys, Berlin, Ct.: Oct. 9.

Machine for making brooms, Jacob H. Hinton, Lancaster, Pa.: March 13.

Scrubbing-brushes, George Carver, Chambersburg, Pa.: August 1.

Trimming the bristles of brushes, Samuel Taylor, East Cambridge, Mass.: May 17.

Rocking-chair, A. C. Stiles, South Bloomfield, Ohio: September 27.

Coffee pots, Daniel Rowland, Washington, D.C.: September 17.

Cracker machine, W. H. Tuttle, assignee of J. Johnson and Otis Freeman, Boston: May 17.

Cutting sausage-meat, William Pittenger, Rome, Ohio: March 26; Edwin Clark, Hartford: Aug. 31.

Machines for producing exercise, Oliver Halstead, New York: March 13.

Fruit and vegetable preservers, Peter Kephart, Uniontown, Md.: September 24.

Refrigerator, D. Evans, Philadelphia: March 25.

Washing machine, James B. Coffin, Big Prairie, Ohio: February 2; Ephraim Lukens, Baltimore: March 9; Lewis Woodward, Medford, N. J.: April 4; William Newbrough, Wooster, Ohio: April 17;

William Soule, Stafford, Ct.: May 17; Oliver B. Wright, Sturbridge, Mass.: July 9; William E. Arnold, Rochester, July; David Kaufman, Mohawk, Ohio: August 21; Nathan Parish, Rush, N. Y.: December 4.

To be continued.

AMERICAN RAILROAD IRON.—The Mountour Iron Company's mills, at Danville, turn out beautiful specimens of T rail, made entirely of Anthracite pig iron. The Potomac Gazette says "The rails exhibited to us are 18 feet in length, and weight fifty-one pounds to the yard; we have never seen any English rails surpassing them in beauty of make and finish, and it is believed that the material itself is superior to that generally employed in England for similar purposes. These rails are made for the Lancaster Road, and several tons we understand are already completed. The Mountour Company will be able to turn out at least 10,000 tons per year."

CINCINNATI.—The commerce of Cincinnati is already immense. In the article of groceries alone, the following have been the imports since January last: Coffee, 44,351 sacks; sugar, 11,285 hds.; molasses, 19,263 bbls.; pepper, 1,235 bags; raisins, 12,410 boxes; rice, 2,053 tierces. In grain, &c., we have the following returns: Wheat, 115,115 bushels; oats, 112,243 do; barley, 28,420 do; corn, 159,203 do; flour, 118,306 bbls.; whiskey, 121,243 do; cheese, 65,481 boxes and 905 casks, and 134,000 packages of merchandise.



Written for the Scientific American.

Aerial Navigator.

I see thee, in thy power, yet I cannot reason why,
Possessing no vitality, thou'rt soaring in the sky,
What is it gives thee force to thee? what guides thee in
thy way?

Canst thou at will return to earth, then rise and soar away?

I would I were thy master, thou my obedient slave,
I'd soar away in ether—I'd cross the darkening wave,
I'd view old Rome, now languishing, I'd visit Carthage's
site,

And bathe my brow with glory, in soft Venetian light.

Yet linger long I would not, but hasten on my way,
And trace the Nile up to its source beneath the torrid ray,
Oft pausing in my journey, to greet a passing one,
And mark the various traits of mind, that on their features
shine.

O'er Jubal Kumra's lofty heights, my course I'd then direct,

Of half discovered Africa, the knowledge I'd perfect,
Descending off to mingle with the sable tribes that roam,
Mid boundless forests deep and dark, the Ethiop lion's
home.

But these should not detain me long, and northward still
afar,

My rapid course should onward be, till 'neath the polar
I paused above the icebergs, where the needle downward
turned,

And the cause of its attraction, at the northern axis
Is our globe a surface only, 'neath which fires eternal play?

Could I with thee, my servant, through the centre make
my way;

And emerge in southern regions, thence my homeward
While the Aerial Navigator pride in every heart should
wake.

ELDA.

The Mechanic's Saturday Night.

Now wife and children, let's begay;

My work is done, and here's the pay—

'Twas hard to earn, but never mind it;

Hope rear'd the sheaf, and peace shall bind it.

Six days I've toiled and now we meet

To share the welcome weekly treat,

Of toast and tea, of rest and joy,

Which, gained by labor, cannot cloy.

Come ye, who form my dear friends—

My care, my comfort, and my pride;

Come now, let us close the night,

In harmless talk, and fond delight.

To-morrow's dawn brings blessings, peace,

And each domestic joys increase

To him who honestly maintains

That course of life which He ordains.

For this and every blessing given,

Thankful, we'll bow the knee to heaven;

In God's own house, our voices raise,

With grateful notes of prayer and praise.

Sweet's that tranquility of heart,

Which public worship does impart;

And sweet's the field, and sweet's the road,

To him whose conscience bears no load.

Thus shall the day, as God designed,

Promote my health, improve my mind;

On Monday morning, free from pain,

Cheerful I'll go to work again.

Our life is but a lengthened week,

Through which we toil, for rest we seek;

And he whose labor well is past,

A joyful Sabbath finds at last.

The Earth is Beautiful.

The whole broad earth is beautiful

To minds attuned aright,

And whoso'er my feet are turned,

A smile has met my sight.

The city with its bustling walk,

Its splendor, wealth, and power,

A ramble by the river side,

A passing summer flower.

The meadows green, the ocean swell,

The forest waving free,

Are gifts of God, and speak in tones

Of kindness to me.

And oh, where'er my lot is cast,

Where'er my footsteps roam,

If those I love are near to me,

That spot is still my home.

A FRENCHMAN'S BOARDERS.—A play actor, ap-
plied for boarding at a house kept by a Frenchman,
who having learned that the applicant was a play
actor, replied as follows:

"Den, ma foi, you cannot have de room. Two
play actor have come board vis me two, five, seven
week—den dey talk out, and be gar dea come back
nevaire. My wife say never mind, de acteur mane
leave tree big trunk vich vill pay for de board; so
we open de boxes, and de one have in him two
pasteboard cap full of big stone—de oder two, be-
gar was full of nosing."

THE WANT OF STREETS.—A friend of ours, who
was recently in this city, complains of the difficulty
of migration from one place to another, in the lower
part of the city, for want of streets. We can as-
sure him, however, that there are streets in almost
every direction, though they have been for some
months past, so deeply buried with rubbish and
mud, that it is rather difficult to find them. We un-
derstand it to be the intention of our street commis-
sioners, to have them all dug out next spring.

JOINING THE CHURCH.—William Bloomfield, an
old bachelor, got married, in Iowa, to a pretty young
girl named Eliza Church. Since his marriage he
has known more happiness, he says, than he ever
did before—all of which he attributes to having
joined the Church.

Only
Begin.

New Inventions.

A NEW RAILROAD.—A patent has been obtained
in England for a new atmospheric railway, on which
the cars are to be driven by a blast of wind blown
through an iron pipe:—the pipe containing a piston
connected with one of the cars. This pipe being
placed centrally between the rails, and extending
the length of the road, has a crevice at the top to
admit of the passage of the plate which connects
the car to the piston, and this crevice is closed with
some elastic substance, which is parted by the plate
in its passage, and closes immediately after it. A
stationary engine is to be employed in working a
bellows at the ends of the road, to produce the re-
quisite blast through the pipe. The proprietors of-
fer to ensure the lives of all who travel on the road,
without extra charge.

NEW METHOD OF WATERPROOFING.—A Mr. Ro-
gers has introduced an important invention for ren-
dering cotton duck for sails and tents, impervious
to water, mildew, or rot; and for rendering all kinds
of woollen cloths, water proof. The inventor is in
Washington for the purpose of effecting contracts
with the Government, for supplying the army and
navy with the use of the improvement.

GROUNDSELS' PREMIUM DRILL.—This is not the
drill recently alluded to, for drilling militia compa-
nies; but is calculated for drilling and sowing a far-
mer's field, in a style far superior to what can be
done by the usual method of sowing and harrowing.
This drill can be so regulated as to sow any given
quantity of seed to the acre, and buries it at an uni-
form depth in the earth. Mr. Groundsel, the in-
ventor, has disposed of several of these machines
in Maryland, where they readily gain the approba-
tion of the farmers who use them.

A NEW AIR GUN.—We have seen several notices
of a gentle cannon, invented in Philadelphia, and
constructed on the air-gun principle, in a manner to
be discharged twenty times in quick succession, and
throwing a ball with the accuracy of a rifle. But
we have seen no description of any novelty in its
construction, different from what has been in use
twenty years or more: nor do we think that the sub-
ject is one which should be encouraged.

NEW MODE OF STEREOTYPING.—A method has
been introduced of producing moulds for stereo-
types, by soaking a piece of stout card-board
till it becomes soft and pliable, and placing it on
the form of movable type and beating it down with
a hard brush till the letters are thoroughly indented.
It is then dried in that position by a gentle heat:
and afterward, being removed and placed between
two planished metallic plates, the melted metal is
poured into the cavity formed by the types, and the
new plate is then formed with a great degree of per-
fection and ready for use. It is said that one card-
board will give several impressions, and that the
whole process requires only about one hour.

SUGAR MAKING APPARATUS.—There is a report,
said to be from a private letter, that a gentleman in
Washington has invented a steam apparatus, by
means of which the juice of the cane, particularly
that prepared for the manufacture of the Muscovado
sugar, may be readily purified by a separation of the
fecula from the saccharine matter, prior to the
process of crystallization: and the liquor being thus
clarified, is said to be reduced to a white and excel-
lent sugar in a few minutes time. This invention
may be said to be "important if true," but we deem
it very possible that the story is a "new invention"
by the editor of the paper in which it first appeared.

NEW TYPE-SETTING MACHINE.—There is a re-
port that a machine for setting type has been put in
successful operation in Vienna. There has been
reports of such an invention at various times and
places before; but the inventions have usually been
located at a great distance: and in this instance, if
a man should go to Vienna to see this wonderful
piece of mechanism, he would probably learn that
it was at New York.

MORSE'S CEROGRAPHIC MAPS.—Harper & Bro-
thers are publishing a series of maps, in a style
surpassing in elegance and accuracy any thing of
the kind in use. They are issued in numbers, each
number containing four maps; beautifully colored,
and enclosed in elegantly embellished covers. These
maps are superior to those which are ordinarily
sold for 25 cents each; yet the whole number, con-
taining four maps, is afforded for 25 cents.—only
six cents each. Every family should be supplied
with the full series.

EXCELLENT BLACK INK.—There are thousands
in this city who can appreciate the difference be-
tween a good, free and dense black ink, and the
worse than worthless deception which is most gene-
rally sold by ordinary stationers; and will thank us
for informing them that Mr. Thaddeus Davida, 112
John st., manufactures the article of superior qual-
ity, and which has been for several years used in
the offices of the several departments of govern-
ment, at Washington.

IMPROVED BRIDGES.—Two excellent improve-
ments in bridges have been recently invented—one
by Mr. G. W. Thayer, and the other by Mr. Lyman
A. Gough, both of Springfield, Mass. Drawings
and descriptions of both improvements may be seen
at this office, by those who are interested or curi-
ous on that subject. We shall probably procure and
present engravings of one or both in a few days.

INTemperance.—Of 873 persons who have been
imprisoned in the Cincinnati jail, within the past
year, no less than 790 were of intemperate habits.
Why will the State Governments permit this curse
to go at large. By the imprisonment of 790 distil-
lers and dealers, seven times 790 more honest men,
would be from prison saved.

GREAT BAGGING.—A Detroit paper gives a state-
ment concerning a family by the name of Bags, the
members of which have received an aggregate
amount of \$16,791 during the present year, from
the public purse. They are probably among the
mail-Bags.

Favors of the Press.

Since the commencement of the publication of
this paper, nearly one hundred of our generous co-
temporaries have drawn deeply on our gratitude by
liberal notices: and although most of the evidences
of these favors, and especially the most compli-
mentary of these notices which had come into our
possession, have been destroyed by fire, we have yet
enough left to remind us of our obligations to the
generous American press: and by way of acknow-
ledgment of these favors, we shall insert a few co-
pies or extracts from those which have been re-
ceived since the occurrence of the fire, which de-
stroyed us of the first class.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—This is a paper just
commenced by Mr. Rufus Porter, and we enroll its
name upon our exchange list with pleasure. Its ob-
jects and aims may be inferred from its title. Me-
chanics will find it a valuable and interesting weekly.
Although it will doubtless contain much *Porter*,
yet its participants must be assured, that it will be
entirely free from all tincture and taste of alcohol.
(Catact, Worcester, Mass.)

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—We have received the
8th No. of the 1st Vol. of a paper under the above
title. It is "the advocate of industry and enter-
prise, and journal of mechanical and other improve-
ments." It is a neatly executed and very interesting
paper, embellished with various drawings explanatory
of important inventions. To that useful class
of our people, the mechanics, it will be highly be-
neficial. Such a paper has been much needed in
this country, and we hope and trust it will meet with
a liberal patronage.—(Cleveland Times.)

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—This is the title of
a new paper commenced in New York, devoted to
scientific and mechanical subjects, and the advocacy
of industry and enterprise. It is particularly wor-
thy of the patronage of the farmer and mechanic,
as it gives weekly four or five engravings of the latest
improvements in mechanism and agriculture, accom-
panied with full descriptions of the same. It is
also an excellent family paper, and will be found to
possess interest for all the members of a family.—
(Schuylerville Herald.)

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—published weekly in New
York, Boston, and Philadelphia, by Rufus Porter.
This paper especially commends itself to Mecha-
nics and Manufacturers, as it not only contains ge-
neral notices of mechanical and scientific improve-
ments, but it also furnishes several illustrative en-
gravings.—(Washington Journal, Portland.)

The "Scientific American," published weekly by
Rufus Porter, New York, is received and lays upon
our table. As its title purports, it is devoted to sci-
entific subjects, comprising industry and enterprise,
mechanical and other improvements. It is conducted
with great ability, and is one of the most useful
sheets for mechanics in the United States. Our
mechanics wishing an eastern paper, could not do
better than to subscribe for the Scientific American.
(Germantown Gazette.)

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—We have received the
first and sixth numbers of a new paper recently
started in New York city by Rufus Porter, formerly
known as once Editor of the New York Mecha-
nic. The paper before us is not dissimilar in its ob-
jects from the "Mechanic," and the long and thor-
ough experience of the Editor is a sufficient guaran-
tee that it will equal, if it does not excel, that re-
putable Journal. The "Scientific American" is
"the advocate of industry and enterprise, and journal
of mechanical and other improvements." Every
mechanic—every scientific man, every manufacturer,
artist, philosopher and tradesman in America
should take this paper.—(Wisconsin Republican.)

"The Scientific American," is the title of a useful
weekly newspaper, published in New York. It is
useful to mechanics and manufacturers especially,
being devoted to Scientific essays, illustrative of the
principles of their various pursuits, accompanied
with engravings of new inventions. To mechanics
it proves a most useful paper; and we are glad to
see that politics, literature, agriculture, and other
professions are not to monopolize our weekly pa-
pers, but that the mechanical branch of industry is
to have its principles sent abroad in such a manner
as to be within the reach of all mechanics.—(Bloom-
ingdale Herald.)

The Scientific American, is the name of a weekly
paper published at New York, by Rufus Porter.
It has reached its 9th No. Mr. Porter was several
years since editor and publisher of the New York
Mechanic, a paper which was very popular, and ob-
tained an extensive circulation. The Scientific
American professes to be "the advocate of industry
and enterprise and journal of mechanical and other
improvements." Each number is furnished with
two or more engravings. The Editor has a better
knowledge of machinery, and a more extensive ac-
quaintance with patents, than any man within our
knowledge.—(Wreath and Garland.)

The Scientific American is a weekly sheet, not
quite as large as our own, but ably conducted. It
contains, in addition to the most interesting news of
passing events, general notices of the progress of
mechanical and other scientific improvements; Ame-
rican and foreign improvements and inventions; ca-
talogues of American Patents; scientific essays, il-
lustrative of the principles of the science of mecha-
nics, chemistry, and architecture; useful infor-
mation and instruction in various arts and trades;
curious philosophical experiments; miscellaneous in-
telligence, music and poetry. The seventh number
is before us, and if it be a specimen, it is well wor-
thy of patronage.—(True Wesleyan.)

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—We think it an
excellent paper, and its subscribers here think so,
too, and we haven't a doubt that a good many more
would be of the same opinion, if they received it.
(Democratic Pharos.)

The Williamsburgh Gazette fifty says, in copy-
ing our account of the fire of last Monday evening:
—"Among the sufferers by this conflagration is Ru-
fus Porter, the worthy editor and proprietor of the
Scientific American, one of the best papers for the
use of mechanics which has ever been published in
this country. Mr. P. was not insured, and saved
nothing except his mail-book. Type, materials, &c.
were all destroyed. We hope that our operatives
will now step forward and subscribe for the Scien-
tific American, which is to be continued, and thus, at
least, aid their unfortunate brother. Independent of
the satisfaction of doing good, the paper itself will
richly reward them for this act."—(N. Y. Tribune.)

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—This excellent pa-
per makes its appearance again after an absence of
several weeks. It will be recollected that the office
where this paper was published, was destroyed at the
late fire in Spruce street, New York. The flames
spread so rapidly that nothing was saved from
the office but the mail books. No insurance.
But the enterprising publisher is on his legs again,
and we hope he may have more than additional pa-
tronage to make up his loss. We believe this is
the only journal in this country exclusively devoted
to mechanics and manufactures, and as Mr. Porter
is himself a scientific mechanic, he cannot fail to in-
terest those of the two classes who are interested
in the mechanic arts. We consider the Scientific
American worth preserving, and have placed it on
file.—(Washington Journal.)

The publication of the "Scientific American" is
again resumed. A friend left the last number with
us for perusal, and we do not hesitate to pronounce
it an almost invaluable companion for the artisan,
the mechanic, and all who feel an interest in the ad-
vancement of science. It is fully worth the price of
subscription.—(Carbon Co. Gazette.)

The Scientific American, it will be recollected,
was burnt out a few weeks since, has again made
its appearance, looking as smart as ever, and every
way as interesting. This paper is devoted princi-
pally to mechanics and mechanic arts. It is a good
paper and should be liberally supported. It is ed-
ited and published by Rufus Porter, 128 Fulton st.
New York.—(Essex Banner.)

On another occasion the following remarks ap-
peared in the Banner:

In appearance, pith and interest, the Scientific
American so forcibly reminded us of that smart and
ably conducted journal, the Mechanic, formerly con-
ducted by the present editor of the Scientific Ame-
rican, that we wrote Mechanic, instead of American
on our exchange list.

To be continued.

Scraps of Curious Information.

The atmospheric pressure on the surface of the
earth is near 15lb per square inch.—The weight or
pressure of water, is about seven ounces per square
inch for every foot of its depth.—845 cubic feet of
atmospheric air, are as heavy as one cubic foot of
water.—The bones of birds are hollow, and filled
with air instead of marrow.—The flea jumps 200
times its own length, equal to a quarter of a mile
for a man.—The Romans lay on couches at their
dining tables on their left arms, eating with their
right.—The walls of Nineveh were 100 feet high,
and thick enough for three chariots abreast.—Babyl-
on was 60 miles within the walls, which were 76
feet thick and 300 feet high.—The earth is 7,916
miles in diameter, and 24,880 miles round.—Forests
of standing trees have been discovered in York-
shire, England, and Ireland, imbedded in stone.—A
man is taller in the morning by half an inch than
he is at night.—The atoms composing a man are
supposed to be changed every forty days, and the
bones in a few months.—Fossil remains on the Ohio
proves that it was once covered by the sea.—When
the sea is of a blue color, it is deep water; when
green shallow.—Book-keeping, by double entry and
decimal arithmetic, was invented in 1501.—Pocket
watches were first introduced into England, from
Germany, in 1501.—The color of the mourning dress
amongst the Chinese and Siamese, is white; with
the Turks blue and violet; Ethiopians gray; Per-
sians mouse color; Japanese white; Persians brown,
and Egyptians yellow.—The human body can be
brought to endure a heat of 280 degrees of Fahren-
heit. The experiment was tried successfully in
Switzerland.—In the year 1510 a shower of stones
fell at Pauda, Italy. One of these stones weighed
120 pounds.

A box 24 inches by 16 inches square, and 22
inches deep, will contain a barrel, or 10,752 cubic
inches.—A box 16 inches by 16 8-10 inches deep,
will contain a bushel, or 2,150 4-10 inches.—A box
12 by 11 2-10 inches square and 8 inches deep, will
contain a half a bushel, or 1,075 cubic inches.—A
box 8 inches by 8 4-10 inches square and 8 inches
deep, will contain 1 peck, or 237 8-10 cubic inches.
—A box 8 by 8 inches square, and 4 2-10 inches
deep, will contain one half peck or 268 8-10 cubic
inches.—A box 4 inches by 4 inches square, and
4 2-10 inches deep, will contain one quart, or 67 2-10
cubic inches.

Interesting Experiments.

Place a pane of glass in a horizontal position, and
spread over it a few drops of a saturated solution of
alum: as the solution dries, it will rapidly crystal-
lize in small octahedrons, scarcely visible to the eye.
When this glass is held up between the observer
and the sun, or a candle, with the eye very near to
the smooth side of the glass, there will be seen
three beautiful haloes of light, at different distances
from the luminous body. The innermost hale ap-
pears nearly white, while the larger or most distant,
will appear brilliantly coloured, in consequence of
the refraction of the light, by a more inclined set of
the faces of the crystals.

TO PREPARE A PHIAL THAT WILL GIVE LIGHT IN
THE DARK.—Fill a small phial about one third full
of olive oil; add to this a piece of phosphorus equal
to one tenth of the weight of the oil. Cork the phial
and wrap it in the paper to exclude the light, and
set it, or suspend it in a warm place, but where the
heat may not be equal to that of boiling water, till
the phosphorus appears to be dissolved. This
phial may be carried in the pocket, and whenever
the cork is started in the night, the phial will evolve
light enough to show the hour on a watch.

YOU'LL BE TOO LATE.—The following sober and
rational advertisement appears in the Cleveland
(O.) Times. We would caution our Eastern bac-
cholar readers against anticipation of successful ap-
plication, as there is a hundred to one that the
chance will be taken up by some Western wight
before an Eastern eye, eye, could reach the fair ad-
vertiser, even by Morse's telegraph.

A HUSBAND WANTED.—A lady not yet turned
forty, well informed in all the duties of housewifery,
of good form, and withal good looking, full of vivac-
ity, and possessing a kind disposition, without
much wealth, but willing to work—would accept
an offer of marriage from a gentleman of suitable
age, of good temper, kind-hearted, and of industrious
and temperate habits. For further particulars, in-
quire personally of the editor of the Times.

DIVORCES IN CONNECTICUT.—The law of Con-
necticut requires the court to grant divorces, where
either husband or wife are intemperate. Of course
when a married couple wish to separate, they have
only to procure a keg of rum, and they can soon be-
come duly qualified for a full release from hymen's
bonds.

THE R. W. MECHANICS' MUTUAL
PROTECTION, No. 11, meet every Wednesday
evening at their Hall, corner of Bleeker street and
Cottage Place, at half past seven o'clock, P. M.

D. L. BENSON, R. S.

There are in New York city 208 hacks, 250 cabs,
and 230 omnibuses: total, 697.



Rational Religion.

We have written under this head before, and per-
haps may do it many times more. The blessed
Saviour once asked the bigoted pharisees and their
adherents "Why judge ye not of your own selves,
what is right?" Which was evidently an appeal to
that power of reason, which every man who is
honest at heart, is capable of exercising. Chris-
tianity is ever opposed to a blind superstitious faith,
but always encourages the reasoning faculties; the
true faith being based on RATIONAL conclusions.
It is a wonder and mystery, that even in this
favored and enlightened country, where the Scrip-
tures of truth, with abundant evidence of their
authenticity, and divine origin, are placed in the
hands or within the reach of every man, woman,
and child, the most prevalent and favorite customs,
are in many respects directly opposed to the prin-
ciples, therein palpably and conspicuously inculcated.
And these errors, so far from being restricted to the
ostensibly ignorant, are not only indulged, but in
many instances encouraged, by the most prominent
and popular churches; while the mass of professed
Christians blindly follow the blind leaders, without
ever searching the Scriptures for themselves to "see
if those things are so," or whether the leaders and
churches are "sailing according to the chart."

The sentiment has been industriously promul-
gated, and has gained credence to a lamentable ex-
tent, that no person is competent to understand the
inspired writings, unless he has a collegiate educa-
tion: but who does not see—or rather, who might
not see—that the prevalence of this sentiment, in
conjunction with the prevailing apathy on the part
of the masses, give to the ecclesiastical leaders, a
monopoly over the consciences of men; and that
consequently, whatever sentiment or principle does
not comport with the interest and popularity of these
monopolists, becomes at once unpopular, whether of
truth or error. Hence we find it to be the case,
uniformly and unexceptionably, that wherever a
man takes the Scriptures alone for his guide, dis-
carding all traditionary and sectarian influence, and
attempts the promulgation of the plain and simple
principles of the gospel, he is as readily accused of
heresy and fanaticism, as the most barefaced im-
postor of the basest character, who pretends to have
received miraculous revelations in opposition to
both Christianity and common sense. And this
rank opposition of popular religion, against the ra-
tional religion of the gospel, is even now, carried to
such an extent, that men are not unfrequently de-
nounced as rank fanatics, merely on account of their
being seen with the Bible in their pockets. We
would admonish all to search the Scriptures; and
to be cautious about condemning those who with
sincerity are endeavoring to follow the true light of
the Scripture revelation: for we esteem it to be
more honorable, or less reprehensible, for a man to
avow open infidelity, than to profess to advocate the
Christian religion, while acting in direct opposition
to the most ostensible, brilliant, and excellent prin-
ciples thereof.

THINK ON ETERNITY.—I have frequently, after
going from house to house where spiritual deadness
seemed to reign, been cheered and exhilarated by a
poor negro on the wayside. Think on eternity!
said I to a poor black woman, the other day, just
after I had visited the families in C., and was almost
prostrated in body and mind. I could only say as
I passed in sorrow, Think on eternity. She looked
up; a gleam of intelligence and a smile of spiritual
beauty illumined her dark features, as the poor
African exclaimed, Yes, master, bless God I do. I
caught the inspiration, and went on comforted and
strengthened.—L. H. Bate.

INSCRIPTION ON A TOMBSTONE.

"I came in the morning—it was spring:
And I smiled;
I walked out at noon—it was summer;
And I was glad;
I sat me down at even—it was autumn:
And I was sad;
I laid me down at night—it was winter:
And I slept."

Meeting of Congress.

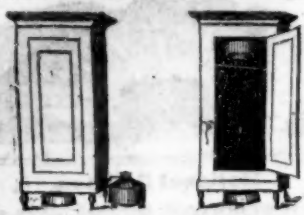
The first Session of the twenty-ninth Congress,
commenced at Washington on Monday. Both
Houses were fully organized. The Senate met at
noon, when Vice-President Dallas took the Chair,
and called the body to order. Forty-three members
answered to their names.

The House of Representatives also met at 12
o'clock, and it was called to order by Mr. B. French,
the Clerk, when 212 members answered to their
names.

On motion of Mr. Hopkins, the House then pro-
ceeded to the election of a Speaker. And Mr. J.
W. Davies of Indiana, was elected on the first ballot.
The two houses adjourned at an early hour, after
appointing the usual committees to wait on the
President, &c. President Polk's message to the
new Congress, reached this city at half-past nine
on Tuesday evening.

A MOTHER'S DEVOTION.—While a canal boat was
laying at one of the piers at Albany a few days
since, a son of the Captain (Avory,) about two years
and a half old, who was playing on deck accidentally
fell overboard between the boat and the dock, with-
out being observed by the men at work; but the
accident escaped not the ever-watchful eye of Mrs.
Avory, who, with all a mother's impulsive affection,
forgetting her own danger in that of her son, and
without waiting for other aid, plunged instantly into
the river, and gallantly rescued her drowning boy,
whom she held with one hand, while clinging to the
dock with the other, until drawn out of her perilous
situation."

Locke's Portable Shower Bath.



The subscriber has the satisfaction to announce to the public, that he has perfected, and is prepared to furnish at short notice, a portable shower-bath, far superior in utility and convenience of management to anything of the kind hitherto offered. It constitutes a light and genteel article of furniture for a bed-chamber, and so perfectly constructed, that either a lady or gentleman can at any moment enjoy a copious shower without the aid of servants, and without having a drop of the water sprinkled on the carpet or floor. And by a slight change in a part of the apparatus, the same may be converted to a steam-bath, either plain or aromatic. These baths are manufactured and may be examined at No. 31 Ann st. JOHN LOCKE.

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* Country newspapers, copying the whole of this advertisement, and giving it six inside insertions, shall be entitled to a copy of any one of the above works,—all who may comply with the above terms, will please send a copy of the paper, each time of insertion, to the publisher, E. WALKER, 114 Fulton st., New York. Dec. 31.

JOHN H. MILLER,

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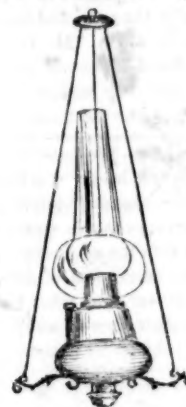
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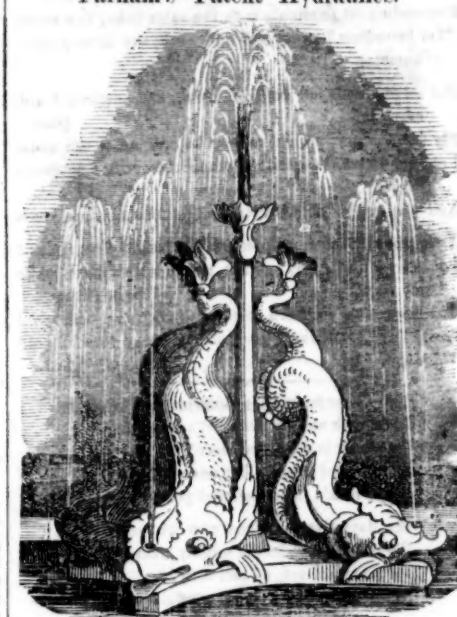
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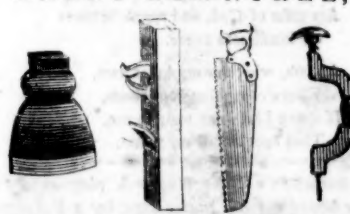
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